## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AGRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /061 W

-----057246 051448Z /43

R 051325Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0162

INFO AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CONFIDENTIAL GABORONE 1469

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, BC, CH, SF

SUBJECT: PRC "AGRICULTURAL TEAM" SEEKS PROJECT BORDERING SOUTH AFRICA

REF: (A) GABORONE 655, (B) GABORONE A-30, (C) HOOVER MEMCON JUNE 13 (NOTAL)

- 1. RELIABLY INFORMED SENIOR U.S. EXPATRIATE EMPLOYEE OF MINAG TOLD DCM JULY 3 THAT CHINESE "AGRICULTURAL SURVEY TEAM" HAD INSISTED ON GOING TO TULI BLOCK (BORDERING SOUTH AFRICA) TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF DOING AN AGRICULTURAL PROJECT ON THE LIMPOPO RIVER.
- 2. THIS INSISTENCE WAS MANIFEST DESPITE FACT THAT CHINESE WERE TOLD TULI BLOCK CONSISTS ALMOST ENTIRELY OF FREEHOLD FARMS (MANY EUROPEAN-OWNED). THEY SHOWED NO INTEREST IN CONFIDENTIAL

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PROJECTS IN OKAVANGO OR OTHER AREAS REMOTE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER, BUT APPEAR DETERMINED TO ESTABLISH SOME PRESENCE ALONG THE LIMPOPO. THE GOB NOW REGRETS THAT INVITATION TO SURVEY TEAM, ISSUED DURING EUPHORIA OF PRESIDENT KHAMA'S TRIP LAST YEAR TO PRC, WAS EVER MADE.

3. COMMENT: IF CHINESE WERE INTERESTED IN ARMS SUPPLY OR OTHER CONTACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONALISTS, NOT-ABLY THEIR FRIENDS IN THE PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS (PAC), APPRECIATE INFORMED REACTIONS OF ANY ADDEE POSTS. END COMMENT.
NORLAND

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS, BOUNDARIES

Control Number: n/a

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Subject: PRC \"AGRICULTURAL TEAM\" SEEKS PROJECT BORDERING SOUTH AFRICA

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, BC, CH, SF

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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